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MAY MEETING, 1877.

The stated monthly meeting was held this day, Thursday, May 10, in the hall of the Society ; the President, Mr. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The record of the Annual Meeting was read by the Recording Secretary, and approved.

The Librarian, Dr. GREEN, made a report of the gifts to the Library since the last meeting.

The President announced the death of the Hon. Lorenzo Sabine, M.A., which had occurred since the Annual Meeting, and spoke of his various public services, and especially of his contributions to history. He noticed, in particular, his work on the "American Loyalists," and that on "Duels and Duelling;" and read the following resolutions, reported from the Council : —

Resolved, That this Society has heard with regret of the decease of their venerable Resident Member, the Hon. Lorenzo Sabine, who, by a life of activity and devotion in the many honorable positions to which he has been called, and especially by his successful historical labors, deserves to be remembered with gratitude by his associates here, and by the community in which he was so widely known.

Resolved, That the President be requested to appoint a member of the Society to prepare a Memoir of Mr. Sabine for the "Proceedings."

These resolutions, after being warmly supported by the Rev. EDWARD EVERETT HALE and the Rev. Dr. GEORGE E. ELLIS, were unanimously adopted.

The Treasurer, Mr. C. C. SMITH, made a statement as to the financial condition of the Society, and offered, from the Council, the following resolution : —

Voted, That the Treasurer be, and hereby is, authorized and directed to charge to the accumulated income of the Massachusetts Historical Trust-Fund the sum of \$4,000, being a part of the sum paid by him April 17, 1877, toward the reduction of the mortgage debt of the Society, which debt was incurred for the purpose of improving the premises belonging to the Society.

The consideration of this resolution, after remarks by the President, the Treasurer, Dr. ELLIS, Mr. DEANE, and Mr. WILLIAM AMORY, was postponed until the next meeting of the Society.

The President stated that, during his recent absence from Boston, he had met with several of the Corresponding Members of the Society, naming Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Bryant, and Mr. James Lenox. He was privileged to visit the Lenox Gallery, and presented a copy of the catalogue of the same to the Society. He also attended, as President of this Society, the meeting of the New York Historical Society, held in the Academy of Music, in celebration of the centenary of the adoption of the Constitution of New York; and presented to the Society several publications of Mr. De Peyster, the President of the New York Society.

The Rev. Dr. PEABODY read a curious old letter of the Rev. Joseph Meade to the Rev. Dr. Twisse, giving his views as to the method of the discovery of America, to the effect that it was a device of the devil to have a kingdom where he could be served and worshipped without molestation by the Christians of Europe.

Dr. PEABODY read this letter for the amusement of the members, to many of whom it was probably new, though it had been printed in one of the former volumes of the Society.*

The Rev. Mr. WATERSTON spoke of the collection of etchings illustrative of scenes and incidents of the late civil war, and intimated his intention of presenting a copy to the Society.

The President exhibited a volume, in which were bound up together the short-hand notes of Mr. Webster's great speech in 1830, in reply to Mr. Hayne, of South Carolina, taken by Joseph Gales, editor of the "National Intelligencer," the copy of the same by Mr. Gales and his wife, the original MS. of the speech as written out from these materials by Mr. Webster, and the pamphlet speech as originally published. This interesting volume had been purchased by a number of gentlemen as a gift to the Boston Public Library.

The President commented on the fact that the grave of Joseph Gales, who had done so much to elevate the tone and character of the American press, had not even a stone to mark it; and he suggested that it would be a graceful and

* It was printed in the Appendix to Harris's edition of Hubbard's History, 1848. — ED.

just action on the part of the newspaper press to raise, by small contributions, the moderate sum necessary to erect a suitable monument over one who had been so distinguished an ornament of the profession of journalism.

The President read an extract from a letter of our foreign Corresponding Member, Colonel Chester, in which he stated that he was pursuing his researches into the facts of the pedigree of Washington, and had no doubt he should show that the usually received pedigree of the Washington family was erroneous, and should establish the true line of the ancestry of General Washington.

JUNE MEETING, 1877.

A stated meeting of the Society was held this day, Thursday, June 14, at eleven o'clock A.M.; the President, the Hon. ROBERT C. WINTHROP, in the chair.

The vacancy in the office of Recording Secretary was filled by the appointment of Mr. DEANE as Secretary *pro tempore*.

The record of the last meeting was read by him, and was approved.

The Librarian read his list of donors to the Library for the past month, and made special mention of a gift from Mr. Waterston of a series of etchings, entitled "Life Sketches," representing scenes in the late civil war. They were accompanied by a letter from General S. M. Quincy, certifying to the fidelity of the sketches.

The President now spoke of the death, since the last meeting of the Society, of two of its Resident Members, Edmund Quincy and John Lothrop Motley, as follows:—

MR. WINTHROP'S REMARKS.

Our first thoughts to-day, gentlemen, are of those whom we may not again welcome to these halls. We shall be in no mood, certainly, for entering on other subjects this morning until we have given some expression to our deep sense of the loss—the double loss—which our Society has sustained since our last monthly meeting.

When our valued associate, Mr. Edmund Quincy, took his seat at this table for the first time as our Recording Secretary, on the 10th of May last, there was hardly one of our number,